

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

✓ Please amend Claims 38 - 43, 45, 54, 55, and 57-59 and cancel Claims 37, 51-53, 60, and 61, to read as follows:

Claims 1 - 36 (withdrawn).

Claim 37 (canceled).

38. (currently amended) A method ~~as in claim 60~~ for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:
implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
~~wherein releasing methylprednisolone from the prosthesis is released~~ at a rate between 5 $\mu\text{g/day}$ to 200 $\mu\text{g/day}$.

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39. (currently amended) A method as in claim ~~60~~ 38, wherein methylprednisolone is released at a rate between 10 $\mu\text{g/day}$ to 60 $\mu\text{g/day}$.

40. (currently amended) A method for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:
implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
~~as in claim 60, releasing methylprednisolone is released from the prosthesis~~ within a time period of 1 day to 45 days in a vascular environment.

41. (currently amended) A method as in claim ~~60~~ 40, wherein methylprednisolone is released within a time period of 7 days to 21 days in a vascular environment.

42. (currently amended) A method ~~as in claim 60~~ for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method , ~~further comprising:~~
implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
releasing methylprednisolone and at least one other substance ~~in addition to methylprednisolone~~ simultaneously with methylprednisolone ~~release~~ from the prosthesis.

43. (currently amended) A method as in claim 60 for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method ~~further comprising:~~
implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
releasing methylprednisolone and at least one other substance ~~in addition to methylprednisolone~~ sequentially with methylprednisolone ~~release~~ from the prosthesis.

44. (original) A method as in claim 42 or 43, wherein the at least one additional substance is an immunosuppressive substance selected from the group consisting of rapamycin, mycophenolic acid, riboflavin, tiazofurin, mizoribine, FK 506, zafurin, and methotrexate.

45. (currently amended) A method ~~as in claim 60~~ for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:
implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
releasing methylprednisolone wherein the releasing comprises delaying substantial release of methylprednisolone for at least one hour following implantation of the prosthesis.

46. (previously amended) A method as in claim 45, wherein delaying release comprises slowing releasing methylprednisolone from a reservoir with a material that at least partially degrades in a vascular environment over said one hour.

47. (previously amended) A method as in claim 45, wherein delaying release comprises slowing releasing methylprednisolone with a matrix that at least partially degrades in a vascular environment over said one hour.

48. (previously amended) A method as in claim 45, wherein delaying release comprises slowing releasing methylprednisolone with a nondegradable matrix that allows diffusion of methylprednisolone through the nondegradable matrix after said one hour.

49. (previously amended) A method as in claim 45, wherein delaying release comprises slowing releasing methylprednisolone with a rate limiting barrier that allows diffusion of methylprednisolone through the barrier after said one hour.

50. (original) A method as in any one of claims 47-49, wherein the prosthesis is coated with the matrix or barrier by spraying, dipping, deposition, or painting.

Claims 51 - 53 (canceled).

54. (currently amended) A method ~~as in claim 53, wherein the immunosuppressive substance is for~~ inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:

implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
releasing methylprednisolone and mycophenolic acid from the prosthesis when
implanted in the blood vessel.

55. (currently amended) A method for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:

implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and
releasing methylprednisolone and at least one other substance in addition to methylprednisolone from the prosthesis when implanted in the blood vessel, wherein the ~~immunosuppressive substance~~ is mizoribine.

56. (previously amended) A method for inhibiting restenosis in a blood vessel following recanalization of the blood vessel, said method comprising:

implanting a vascular prosthesis in the blood vessel; and

releasing methylprednisolone and at least one other substance in addition to methylprednisolone from the prosthesis when implanted in the blood vessel, wherein methylprednisolone is released within a time period of 2 days to 3 months.

57. (currently amended) A method as in claim ~~52-56~~, wherein the at least one additional substance comprises at least one agent selected from the group consisting of anti-platelet agent, anti-thrombotic agent, and IIb/IIIa agent.

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58. (currently amended) A method as in claim ~~52 56~~, wherein methylprednisolone and the at least one additional substance are released simultaneously.

59. (currently amended) A method as in claim ~~52 56~~, wherein methylprednisolone and the at least one additional substance are released sequentially.

Claims 60 - 61 (canceled).
